

CLASSIFICATION ~~(S)~~ S-E-C-R-E-T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany / USSR / Austria

DATE DISTR. 24 June 1955

SUBJECT East German Imports of Crude Oil from
the USSR in April 1955

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
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(c).

1. In April 1955, it was [redacted] that no crude oil [redacted] from Zistersdorf and Matzen after 1 March 1955. Instead, the [redacted] delivery of 10,000 tons to the mineral-oil works at Luetzkendorf on 10 April 1955. The shipment traveled by road over a distance of 3,500 km.

2. As a result of the missing deliveries of February and March, the output of lubricants in the Luetzkendorf plant lagged 11,500 tons behind the 1955 production plan. It is, however, believed that the production plan for gasoline and Diesel oil can be fulfilled since the percentage of low-boiling ingredients of the Russian crude oil is allegedly higher than that of the Austrian oil. Precise data were not yet available in mid-April. In late April and early May, large driving tests were to be conducted at Luetzkendorf.

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Comment. In February [redacted] tons of Austrian crude oil were [redacted] the GDR. It is possible that [redacted] Luetzkendorf plant did not receive [redacted] deliveries, although the production of lubricants in the GDR fails to meet [redacted]. The alleged loss of 11,500 tons of lubricants appears exaggerated since the yearly output of the plant amounts to only 55,000 tons. The fact that [redacted] Austrian oil has recently been delivered to the GDR, may be due to an increased demand by Czechoslovakia and Poland and a surplus of crude oil in the USSR, which can be sold in the GDR at better prices than in the [redacted] countries of Western Europe.

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20. In April 1955, it was reported at the Ministry for Heavy Industry in East Berlin that no crude oil had been delivered from Zistersdorf and Matten after 1 March 1955. Instead, the USSR made a first delivery of 10,000 tons to the mineral-oil works at Pozzankend on 10 April 1955. The shipment traveled by road over a distance of 3,500 km.

As a result of the missing deliveries of February and March, the output of lubricants in the Luetzkendorf plant lagged 11,500 tons behind the 1955 production plan. It is, however, believed that the production plan for gasoline and Diesel oil can be fulfilled since the percentage of low-boiling ingredients of the Russian crude oil is allegedly higher than that of the Austrian oil. Precise data were not yet available in mid-April. In late April and early May, large driving tests were to be conducted at Luetzkendorf.

Comment. In February 1954, 31,000 tons of Austrian crude oil were imported by the GDR. It is possible that the Luetzkendorf plant did not receive oil from these deliveries, although the production of lubricants in the GDR failed to meet requirements. The alleged loss of 11,500 tons of lubricants appears exaggerated since the yearly output of the plant amounts to only 55,000 tons! The fact that no Austrian oil has recently been delivered to the GDR may be due to an increased demand by Czechoslovakia and Poland and a surplus of crude oil in the USSR, which can be sold in the GDR at better prices than in the countries of Western Europe.

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